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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/716,959

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Bogdanovich Alexander

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MACCORD MASON PLLC
300 N. GREENE STREET, SUITE 1600
P. O. BOX 2974
GREENSBORO, NC 27402

EXAMINER

JOHNSON, JENNA LEIGH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1794

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/01/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/716,959	Applicant(s) ALEXANDER ET AL.	
	Examiner Jenna-Leigh Johnson	Art Unit 1794	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 March 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-10, 13-24, 26-29 and 31-40 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 11, 12, 25 and 30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The Amendment submitted on March 31, 2008, has been entered. No claims have been cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended. Therefore, the pending claims are 1 - 40. Claims 8 - 10, 13 - 24, 26 - 29, and 31 - 40 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a nonelected invention.
2. The 35 USC 102 rejection based on Ebbesen et al. (6,856,715) are withdrawn since Ebbesen et al. fails to teach a three-dimensional structure with the yarns running in the third direction which is substantially perpendicular to the first and second plane. However, a new rejection based on Ebbesen et al. is set forth below.
3. The 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103 rejections based on Hill et al. (US 2003/0211797) are withdrawn since Hill et al. fails to teach a three-dimensional structure with the yarns running in the third direction which is substantially perpendicular to the first and second plane.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
5. Claims 1 - 7, 11, 12, 25, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ebbesen et al. in view of Nagatsuka et al. (5,242,768) or Hirokawa (4,725,485).

The features of Ebbesen et al. have been set forth in the previous Office Action. While Ebbesen et al. discloses that the fabric can be a three-dimensional fabric without limitation (column 4, lines 65 - 67), Ebbesen et al. fails to teach a three-dimensional structure with the yarns running in the third direction which is substantially perpendicular to the first and second plane. Nagatsuka et al. is drawn to three-dimensional fabrics. Particularly, Nagatsuka et al. discloses fabrics where the yarn running in the third direction is substantially perpendicular to the yarns running in the first and second directions (Figures 1 and 2). Hirokawa is drawn to three-dimensional fabrics. Hirokawa teaches that the three-dimensional

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fabric includes a yarn running in the third direction is substantially perpendicular to the yarns running in the first and second directions (Figure 1). Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art too use known three-dimensional structures which include a yarn running in the third direction is substantially perpendicular to the yarns running in the first and second directions, as taught by Nagatsuka et al. or Hirokawa et al., in the fabric of Ebbesen et al., since Ebbesen et al. discloses that the fabric general three-dimensional fabric structures. Further, the claim would have been obvious because the substitution of known three-dimensional fabric structures for other fabric structures would have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Thus, claims 1 - 7, 11, 12, 25, and 30 are rejected.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jenna-Leigh Johnson whose telephone number is (571) 272-1472. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 - 5:30).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on (571) 272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

jlj
June 23, 2008

/Jenna-Leigh Johnson/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794